



In This Issue

All Things Youth	4-7
Call Committee	10
Spring Spruce Up.....	2
Synod Assembly	9
Worship News	3



St. John's Lutheran
20275 Davidson Road
Brookfield, WI 53045
262-786-6887

Follow Us

Website: www.makedisciples.com
Facebook: [@MakeDisciplesSJL](https://www.facebook.com/MakeDisciplesSJL)
YouTube: @StJohnsWI

Pastor Ponderings—Intergenerational Ministry?

By Pastor Karen Natterstad, Interim Pastor

Some Sunday morning, just look around you during worship and see how many three generational families are sitting together. Or, if you know this community pretty well, how many three generations of families can you identify who are engaged in serving, learning, and worship at St. Johns? I've been noticing just how many there are lately. Either this congregation is unique or I've never quite noticed so many in the congregations I've served. I've also learned some of their stories.

Grandparents joined St. John's because this is where their adult children attend. Grandchildren are choosing to worship with Grandma. Or, whole tribes joined at once. These stories go against what is typical in most families, including my own. Children grow up, leave town, leave the congregation. But something unique is going on here. These families who can participate in Church community together, actually WANT to.

I'm drawing attention to our three generational families, because every now and again I'll hear about churches promoting intergenerational

I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. - 2 Timothy 1:5

ministry. It's nothing new really. What is it? It's bringing together people of different ages (those NOT in your family) to learn, serve and worship together. For example, our children's message in worship. The children may be sitting up front, but everyone is engaged in learning, laughter, and prayer. Think about what other events at St. John's where relationships are fostered.

In 2 Timothy 1:5 Paul commends Grandmother Lois and Mother Eunice for passing on their faith to the young Timothy. We catch a glimpse of the early church and how being together as young, old and in between, they inspired faith in each other. What might be possible if St. John's wanted to be more intentional about intergenerational ministry? It's something worth thinking about.

On the journey with you,
Pastor Karen

Spring Spruce Up is Monday



Spring Spruce Up is scheduled for **May 4 at 5:00 p.m.** All ages and abilities are encouraged to stop by to lend a hand - or a shovel or rake. Come when you can, leave when you must.

Click or scan the QR code to RSVP so we prepare enough jobs and enough food! Dogs, brats, and all the fixin's will be served.

There will be jobs for all abilities. See you there!

Worship

Thank You, Musicians

Many thanks to all of the directors and musicians that worked tirelessly to enhance our Lenten season and Easter, we thank you!

Many of the choirs will be taking a summer break starting in June, please thank a choir member.

Questions about
music at
St. John's?



Contact Becky!

bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Exciting Summer News

The council and staff are excited to announce summer worship plans. As we are preparing to call our next pastor, we will worship as one this summer!

Becky and Kenn are busy making plans to blend the two worship styles during the summer. Together we can make a joyful song to the Lord through many different musical styles!

The summer schedule will begin Memorial Day weekend (May 24) and continue through Labor Day weekend (September 6.)

See you in worship!



Volunteer Schedule

Sunday morning volunteers

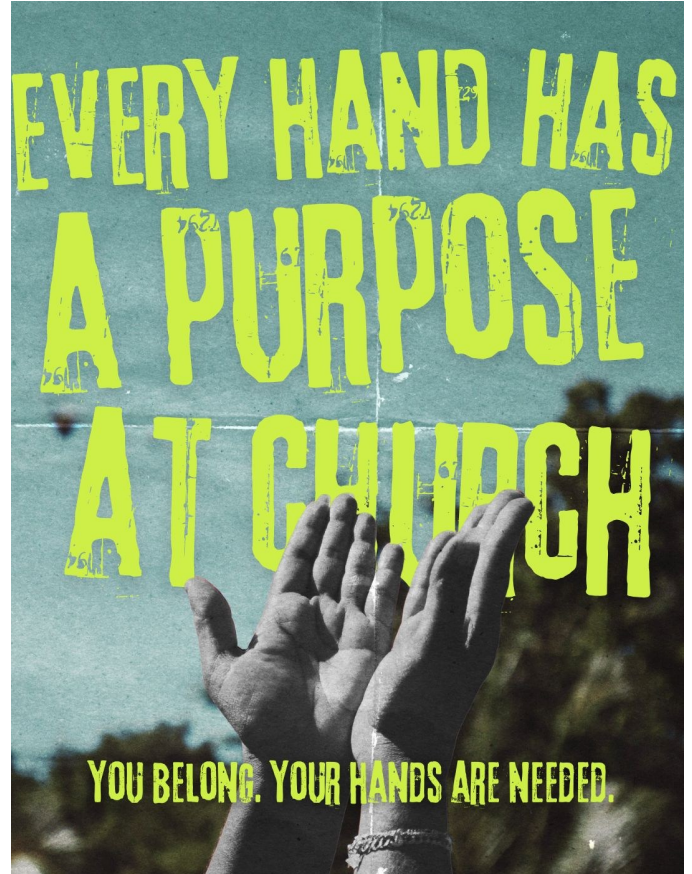
Watch your email in early May for the summer Sunday schedule. Since we are worshipping together this summer, at 9:00, you may be serving with some new faces! The new schedule will cover May 24 to September 6.

If you haven't entered the summer dates you are unable to serve, it isn't too late! Login at your convenience, click the Profile tab, and add in the dates.

Thank you for your ministry!



**Ministry
Scheduler
Pro**



Children, Youth & Families

Preschool Now Enrolling for All Classes



Celebrating Laura

The congregation is invited to a reception on Sunday, May 17 between services to celebrate Laura Rickinger's retirement. We want to thank Laura for her years of service to St. John's Preschool ministry.



We even Play School
at Preschool



St. John's Preschool

WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.

We have Openings in Our Preschool
Classes for You in September!

makedisciples.com/preschool/
lrickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org - 262-786-4298
20275 Davidson Road Brookfield, WI 53045



Playing to Learn



St. John's Preschool is proud to be a Playing to Learn Preschool.

Playing to Learn is our educational approach that uses play as the primary method for teaching and learning. Our teachers create environments that encourage individual learning, foster confidence, and a love of learning in enjoyable and meaningful ways.

What we all say is that if learning looks like playing and fun in Preschool, learning is happening in all the best ways!



Children, Youth & Families

Sunday Evening Education

We are wrapping up our Sunday evening programming! Thanks for a wonderful year!

Sunday night

May 3 -- Last 7th & 8th grade Confirmation class of the year!
8th grade parent meeting at **5:45**.



Contact Joanna with Toddler to 8th Grade Questions

jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org



Sunday School

1. Join us on May 17 during the Sunday School hour for our Super-Duper-End-Of-The-Year-Extravaganza!
2. A huge **thank you** to our Sunday School and Confirmation leaders and our Children, Youth, and Family Board for their commitment, leadership and dedication to our Children, Youth, and Family Ministries at St. John's.

Sunday School & Confirmation leaders: Joanna Feller, Anna Douglas, Jenny Templin, John Roth, Carrie and Phil Peters, Michelle & Josh Werner, Sonja Beyerlein, Karie Zach, and Linnea Logan. Special thanks to Sara Sadowski and Andrea Rebisch for leading our Stewardship drives!

Children, Youth and Family Board: Linnea Logan, Sonja Beyerlein, Karie Zach, Curtis Templin, and CYF staff.

Pancake Breakfast

6-8th graders! Sign up to work the Pancake Breakfast on May 3 in honor of 9th grade Confirmation!

Sign Up HERE à [High School Youth Group: 2026 Pancake Breakfast](#)

Contact Joanna with any questions!

Sunday School Calendar

- May 3 Happy Confirmation Day! Join us for a pancake breakfast at 9:00 and then for Sunday School! The 9th graders will be confirmed at 10:45 worship.
- May 10 Happy Mother's Day! There is Sunday School this day.
- May 17 Last day of Sunday School! Join us for our [Super-Duper-End-Of-The-Year-Extravaganza!](#)

Big Putts

Middle School outing was a BIG success and lots of fun!



Donut Sunday

A huge thank you to all those who "donut"ated to the Middle Schoolers on Easter Sunday! We raised over \$1000 to send our Middle Schoolers back to Youth Quake!



Children, Youth & Families

HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME
Mar 1	Confirmation Eve	6:30pm—8:00pm
May 3	Pancake Breakfast	9:00am—11:00am
	Confirmation	10:45am
	8th Grade Parent Meeting	5:45pm



8th Grade Parent Meeting

Parents of current 8th graders—your student’s final year of confirmation is right around the corner!

Join Stephanie Broussard on Sunday, **May 3 at 5:45 p.m.** to learn what to expect for 9th grade and the year ahead. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early to pick up your student before the meeting begins.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Celebrating Our 9th Grade Confirmands!

Join us for a special weekend as we celebrate our 9th grade students and their faith journey!

Friday, May 1 | 6:30–9:00 PM



Our 9th grade students will present their independent service project reports from this past year. Come support them and enjoy some delicious treats!

Sunday, May 3 | 9:00-11:00 AM

Pancake Breakfast — Help us celebrate our confirmands with a fun and festive morning meal.



Sunday, May 3 | 10:45 AM

Confirmation Service — Join us as our students affirm their baptism and take this meaningful next step in their faith.



Contact Stephanie with questions about high school and young adult ministry at St. John’s

262-453-9201 or

sbroussard@stjohnbrookfield.org

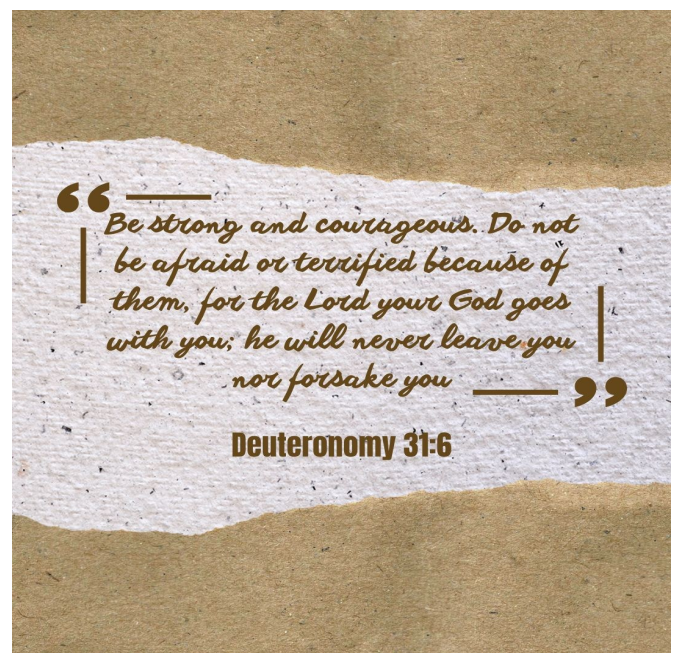
Graduate Information Needed by May 17



St. John’s will honor and pray for our graduates on May 31! If you have a high school or college graduate in your household, please take a moment to submit their information by clicking or scanning the QR code or by using this link:

<https://makedisciples.com/graduate-recognition/>

We can’t wait to celebrate this exciting milestone with you!




Vacation Bible School

Calling all Camp Counselors and Volunteers

Students finishing 6th grade and older – Join us for the week of VBS and help create an amazing experience for all of our elementary school friends. This year's theme is Animal Encounters and each day there will be a new animal to meet! It's sure to be a super fun week.

WHO???
Students finishing 6th grade and older!



VOLUNTEER



Sign up to help with preschoolers, at a station, as a camp counselor, and more!

[Sign Up Here](#)



lock In

Back by popular demand
--
Volunteer Training Lock In on July 25-26

Register Students by June 1 for Early Bird Pricing



Animal Encounters VBS
August 3-6, 2026
St. Johns Brookfield
www.makedisciples.com

Who: Kids ages 4-6th grade (going into). Ages 7th grade and up are encouraged to join us as leaders!

What: Join us for an exciting week of Animal Encounters as we dive into stories in the Bible and meet their animal stars! Each day will include a live animal encounter, crafts, snacks, and outdoor fun!

Where: St. John's Lutheran Church, 20275 Davidson Rd, Brookfield, WI

When: August 3-6, 2026, from 9:00am-12:00pm.
Join us for closing Family Fun Night at 6:30pm on August 6.

How: Register online here
<https://forms.gle/te15ApooSkztTuzU7>

If you are registering more than one child, please complete a registration form for each child. Registration deadline is July 20 or when classes are full.

Costs:
\$35 per child before June 1 (\$100 family maximum),
\$40 per child after June 1 (\$120 family maximum)
for VBS Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM,
including snacks and projects.

Scan or click this QR code for all things VBS.



Serving the World

May Focus is The Women's Center

Angels Have Flown

These two runaways seem to have flown the coop and need to be rounded up again. Just making sure they're not getting into mischief somewhere... we'd like them back in the attic again. They are white, silver and touches of gold. There's a reward for anybody rustling these two up and bringing them home!

Thank you very much, and have a great day!



MAY

Outreach Focus for 

Place donations in the shopping cart

The Women's Center is the focus of our May outreach. They are SOOOO grateful for St. John's giving. Items currently needed at The Women's Center are listed below. Donations are accepted all year, but during May, please place donations in the shopping cart.

Hamburger Helper
coffee and tea
coffee creamer (non-refrigerated)
juice boxes
bottled water
pancake mix
individually bagged snack items
(Goldfish, Cheez-its, crackers, chips, cookies, etc.)
fruit snacks
fruit strips
Pop-Tarts
Granola bars
toilet paper
body sprays/perfumes
Bluetooth speakers
wireless ear buds
Tracfone phones and Tracfone minute cards
gift cards: Aldi, Amazon, Walmart, Pick n Save Walgreens, Kwik Trip
new twin-size comforters
new twin-size bed sheets
new standard size pillows

Thanks for Your Support

"Thank you to St John's staff and members who offer and give their assistance and support to the funeral team for the funerals."

Mary Almasi,
Funeral Reception Ministry



May Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Oliver Boll | 11 John Holmberg | 21 Pat Janz | 25 Gary Schettler |
| 1 Paul Bulgerin | 13 Diane Nelson | 21 Max Kapellusch | 26 Maria Koscielniak |
| 1 Gavin Campeau | 13 Gavin Stefanski | 21 Gerry Milz | 27 John Almasi |
| 2 Devri Zick | 15 Ariel Lipscomb | 21 Carol Smith | 28 Anna Petersen |
| 3 Judi Berglund | 15 Andrea Rebisch | 22 Sara Everts | 30 David Balzer |
| 3 Michelle Sternkopf | 16 Donna Yourell | 23 Eloise Lange | 30 Joseph Balzer |
| 4 Hannah Bulgerin | 17 Arlene Katka | 23 Josh Seamonson | 30 Cory Fell |
| 8 Bob Davis | 18 James Larson | 23 Tommy Werner | 30 Ed Henschel |
| 9 Stephanie Athorp | 19 Kris Wasserman | 24 Jan Gregoire | 31 Virginia Degenhardt |
| 11 Edith Belli | 20 Judy Hintzman | 24 Dylan Yourell | |
| 11 Terry Hoepfner | 20 Roy Osmon | 25 Jon Hintzman | |

Let There Be Light ...

... and a Rebate

Things are getting brighter! Not only are the days getting longer but if you haven't noticed the Sanctuary has new energy-efficient lighting fixtures that help illuminate the house of the Lord even more! To make our costs even "lighter", we received a \$1,600 rebate from Focus on Energy.



Synod Assembly



Collaboration

God Has Called Us to Work Together

2026 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly

Friday Evening Events - Open to the Public!

Friday, May 29, 2026

@ Brookfield Conference Center

5:15 pm Keynote Dinner (\$50/Ticket)

(Dinner is already included for registered Assembly participants.)

7 pm Worship (FREE + No Registration Required)



Keynote Speaker: Tia Richardson

Companion Synod Guests:

Bishop Elias Kitoi Nasari, Meru

Bishop Guadalupe Cortéz, El Salvador

Pastor Christian Chavarria, El Salvador

Learn More + Buy Dinner Tickets:

tinyurl.com/GMSAssembly2026



Creation Corner

Make Your Home More Efficient ... for FREE!

Did you know that Focus on Energy offers multiple energy-saving packs full of a variety of efficient home products for every room and need—all sent straight to your doorstep for FREE! If you pay a utility bill in WI, head to the Focus on Energy website and pick a pack of savings each year.

<https://focusonenergy.com/residential/energy-saving-packs>



Council Communications

The meeting was held on Monday, April 20, 2026.

Finances: Offerings for the year continue to run behind the planned budget. Expenses have also been under budget. Some of the offerings for 2026, given at the end of the year in 2025, will be counted toward our April giving, as had been previously planned by the Finance Committee.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Karen gave a summary of the Town Hall Meeting with Bishop Erickson on April 12.

The final Ministry Site Plan (MSP) from the Mission Exploration Team was reviewed and approved. The MSP will be submitted to the synod and will be available to any potential pastoral candidates.

With this, the work of the Mission Exploration Team ends. We thank the members of the MET for their hard work these past months.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:
MAY 18 AT 6:30 P.M.**

President's Report: Updates were given on the Nominating Committee and work on updating our congregational constitution. A meeting to discuss the constitution, for any interested members, will be held on Sunday, May 3.

Sixteen people attended the March 21 discussion on pastoral letters from ELCA bishops.

Property Committee: A brief discussion on possible plans to repair our church parking lot was held.

"Pave the Way" (PTW)

Campaign: Brian Zach will attend a meeting of the Town of Brookfield on April 28 to further discuss changing the code to allow for electronic signs for churches and other organizations.

New Business: The newly installed Call Committee met for the first time on Sunday, April 19.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Bulgerin
Church Council President

Annual Meeting



All are encouraged to attend the congregational meeting at 10:15 on June 7. The meeting will follow the 9:00 worship.

This meeting is our opportunity to celebrate the ministries God has entrusted to St. John's, to elect the new council, and to get excited about the future.

Ministry Leaders

Be sure to submit your annual reports to Pam by May 17.

Pray for the Call Committee



Keep the Call Committee in your prayers. Pray for patience and guidance through this process of calling a new pastor.

Keith Paukner, chair
Ben Allbaugh
Jeremy Beyerlein

Patrice Krimpelbein
Ariel Lipscomb
Kari Zach

Calendar of events for May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*worship service/event is live streamed	<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> To request space for your small group or ministry to meet in the building, please complete the Facility Use Form on the St. John's website. It is under the Resources tab - Documents and Forms. Contact Heidi with questions. </div>			Coming Soon: 6/7 Annual Meeting	1 office closed 6:15a virtual men's group 1:00p Tai Chi 6:30p Confirmation presentations 6:30p Chinese Christian Church	2 8:30a men's group
3 confirmation 8:30a worship* 9:00a pancake breakfast 9:30a ed and fellowship 10:45a worship 4:30p youth programming 5:45p 8 th grade parent meeting	4 Food Pantry Pick Up 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 5:00p Spring Spruce Up 6:30p Al-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	5 8:30a property team 6:00p quilters 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p scouts	6 8:30a retired men's b-fast 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	7 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	8 office closed 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group 1:00p Tai Chi 6:30p Chinese Christian Church	9 8:30a men's group
10 8:30a worship* 9:30a ed and fellowship 10:45a worship	11 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 5:00p Al-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	12 8:30a property team 5:00p Pray without Ceasing 6:30p HR Team Zoom mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p scouts	13 9:30a Morning Circle 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	14 4:30p Finance Team mtg 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	15 office closed 6:15a virtual men's group 11:30a Women of Faith 1:00p Tai Chi 6:30p Chinese Christian Church	16 8:30a men's group
17 8:30a worship* 9:30a celebrations 10:45a worship 1:00p Eagle Scout BOR 3:00p Waukesha Choral Union Concert	18 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 1:00p women's Bible study 6:30p council meeting 6:30p Al-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	19 8:30a property team 1:00p book club 6:30p scouts	20 12:00p retired men's lunch 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	21 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	22 office closed 6:15a virtual men's group 1:00p Tai Chi	23
24 9:00a worship*	25 office closed 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	26 8:30a property team 11:00a staff mtg 6:30p scouts	27 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	28 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	29 office closed 6:15a virtual men's group 1:00p Tai Chi	30
31 9:00a worship*					<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> Synod Assembly </div>	

Contact Us

Office Hours

The St. John's phone is answered and doors are monitored for entry 9:00-Noon, Monday to Thursday.

Church

phone: 262-786-6887

email: to email a staff member, please click on the link by their photo on the website under Staff.

Preschool

phone: 262-786-4298

lrickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org

About Us

Welcome Statement

At St. John's we align with Paul's words in Romans 15:7 "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." We welcome one another all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race, age or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to physical or mental health, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in our commitment to the ways, grace and love of Christ.

Core Values of St. John's:

- Serving our world, locally and globally;
- Inspiring worship and music that honor God;
- Nurturing relationships with one another as Jesus walks with us;
- Growing in God's grace through education and discipleship;
- Engaging children and youth in the life of the church.

Praying for ...

We pray for those who are battling illness, are healing, or are needing extra prayers:

Connor	Sonja B
Carol M	Doris K
Dylan H	Mark A

To help us to stay connected, we will be sharing the list with you monthly. Prayers may be for thanksgiving, hope and/or healing. The requests may be immediate, short or long term.

Prayer requests may be submitted at the bottom of the website www.makedisciples.com.

Council Contacts

St. John's Council

President

Paul Bulgerin 262-352-9050

Vice-president

Brittany Larson 262-527-2404

Secretary

Josh Werner 262-271-0639

Treasurer

Pauline Shoemaker 262-784-1638

At Large

Gregg Everts 414-640-9988

Mark Latus 262-784-1183

Liz Roth 847-533-4806

Patrice Krimpelbein 262-389-0014

Jack Shaffer 262-212-4240



To learn more about ministries at St. John's, click or scan this QR code.

Following Jesus, Making Disciples, Serving the World.

makedisciples.com



Staff Phone Extensions

St. John's Phone Number: 262-786-6887

Extensions:

- 100 Heidi Bischmann, Office Coordinator
- 101 Pastor Karen Natterstad, Interim Pastor
- 102 Pam Klink, Communications Coordinator
- 103 Bill Stace, Building Supervisor
- 104 Joanna Salinas, Children's Ministry
- 105 Stephanie Broussard, Youth Ministry
- 106 Dorothee Chen, Bookkeeper
- 107 Becky Whelpley, Music Director
- 200 Laura Rickinger, Preschool



Attention Facebook Users

Evangelize with our posts, be sure to:

**LIKE
COMMENT
SHARE**